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FOREIGN NEWS ON CITRUS FRUIT

PORTO RICO EXPECTS TO SHIP MORE GRAPEFRUIT AND PINEAPPLES

Shipments of Porto Rico grapefruit for the year ending June 30, 1926 are expected to exceed the 580,000 boxes sent out during the preceding twelve months, according to H. C. Henricksen, of the Porto Rico Experiment Station. Pineapple exports are also expected to exceed the 343,000 boxes shipped last year.

Grapefruit bloomed heavily during June and July and a large percentage of the fruit has set. With favorable weather, therefore, and with prices ranging between \$4.00 and \$5.00 per box, shipments for the period May 1-November 1, 1925 should be fully 150,000 boxes. Midseason shipments (November 1 to January 1) should reach 400,000 to 500,000 boxes. Excessive rainy weather, however, and lowered prices resulting from heavy supplies from other sources would materially reduce those figures. It is pointed out that 1924-25 shipments would have been much larger had mid-season prices been better, and much smaller had the late season prices not been so extraordinarily good.

PORTO RICO; Number of Grapefruit Trees, 1910, 1920, 1925.

Type of trees	1910	1920	1925
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Of bearing age.....	113,000	215,000	220,000
Not of bearing age...	115,000	111,000	50,000

Areas covered are those included in the 1920 Census report.

Pineapple shipments for the year ending June 30, 1926 will be well over the 343,000 boxes shipped during the fiscal year just closed, and may reach 450,000 boxes, according to Mr. Henricksen. Plantings have increased annually during the last few years, and are expected to continue. As with grapefruit, the shipping of pineapples depends very largely upon price conditions in consuming centers. If prices are low, the Porto Rican canneries may take about 1/4 of the expected 450,000 boxes.

It is estimated that the amount of Isle of Pines grapefruit that will be exported to the United States from August 1925 to June 1926 inclusive, will be 20% less than that of the 1924-25 season, or approximately 175,000 crates, according to Sheridan Talbott, American Vice Consul in Charge at Nueva Gerona. The first shipment will leave the island around the eleventh of August and be on the New York market one week later. This season's fruit is large and is expected to bring good prices.

It is thought that about 36,000 crates will go forward in August, 72,000 in September, 48,000 in October and 18,000 during the remaining months. These figures do not include shipments to England and Canada, which approximated 30,000 crates during the past season.

